

Mental Health Update

March 17, 2006

Futures: Architecture+ Meets With Consumers

Representatives from Architecture+, the firm investigating Vermont's options for new psychiatric inpatient capacities, met with a focus group of consumers on Tuesday. Notes from the meeting are posted on the Mental Health Update web page. An Architecture+ work team also spent Tuesday on-site at Fletcher Allen Health Care, evaluating options for siting the new inpatient facility.

Futures: Meetings To Be Scheduled With Actuarial Firm

The Health Department has contracted with the actuarial firm Milliman, Inc. to assess Vermont's psychiatric inpatient bed needs. The actuarial study, due to be completed in April, is considering:

- The recommended bed capacity to replace Vermont State Hospital at two levels of care (specialized inpatient and intensive care inpatient), 10 years into the future.
- The recommended bed capacity for general psychiatric inpatient care (the third level of care) state-wide, 10 years into the future.

The analysis of projected bed need will consider the impact of Vermont's community-based system of mental health care services, including the development of new programs as envisioned in the Futures Plan. The analysis also will consider the needs for psychiatric inpatient beds for the Department of Corrections population.

Milliman has secured the services of a subcontractor, The Management Group (TMG), to analyze the impact of the current and planned community services system on our needed capacity of inpatient beds. TMG representatives will be in Vermont on March 27 and 28 to meet with stakeholders. TMG will use these stakeholder meetings to inform their assessment of psychiatric inpatient bed needs. A draft of the questions they plan to ask is posted on the mental Health Update web page. TMG will meet with the Vermont Department of Health, the Agency of Human Services, and BISHCA, and staff is in the process of scheduling meetings with TMG and representatives of the following groups on March 27 and 28:

- Futures Advisory Group.
- Futures Inpatient Work Group.
- NAMI-VT.
- Vermont Psychiatric Survivors.
- The Designated Hospitals and the Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Care Systems.
- The Designated Agencies and the Vermont Council of Developmental and Mental Health Services.

Futures Group March 20 Agenda, Discussion Documents Posted

The agenda for the March 20 Futures Advisory Group meeting (2-4:30 p.m., Room 100, Stanley Hall, Waterbury State Office Complex) is posted on the Mental Health Update web page. The agenda includes the scheduling of an April meeting. Also posted are an updated Futures plan and a draft discussion document that describes community recovery residences. The residential recovery workgroup met again on Wednesday.

Vermont State Hospital Files Report With Board of Health

The Vermont State Hospital's March 15 report to the Board of Health, pursuant to its licensing condition, is posted on the Mental Health Update web page.

Upcoming Meetings

- Vermont State Hospital Futures Advisory Group
 - o March 20, 2-4:30 p.m., Room 100, Stanley Hall, Waterbury State Office Complex.
 - o April: An April meeting is planned and will be scheduled soon.
 - May 15, 2-4:30 p.m., Skylight Conference Room, Waterbury State Office Complex.
 - June 26, 2- 4:30 p.m., Skylight Conference Room, Waterbury State Office Complex.
- Futures Clinical Care Management Work Group (Please note change of date)
 - o NOTE CHANGE: April 7 April 28, 9-11 a.m., Skylight Conference Room, Waterbury State Office Complex.
- Futures Residential Recovery (sub-acute) Work Group (Please note change of locations)
 - April 5, 9-11 a.m., Washington County Mental Health Services, 9 Heaton Street, Montpelier 2 Moody Court, Waterbury (green building east of railroad station).
 - o April 26, 9-11 a.m., Washington County Mental Health Services, 9 Heaton Street, Montpelier 2 Moody Court, Waterbury (green building east of railroad station).
- Futures Facilities Work Group (With Architecture+)
 - o April 3, 1-4 p.m., Room 3B, Health Department, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington.
 - o May 22, 1-4 p.m., Room 3B, Health Department, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington.
 - o June 12, all day, for presentations; various locations to be announced.
- One-time Meeting To Discuss ONH Scheduling
 - March 22, 10 11:30 a.m. Claudia Stone Conference Room, Hanks Building, Waterbury State Office Complex.

VSH Census

The Vermont State Hospital census was 54 as of midnight Thursday night.